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SEATON VALLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER, 1954.



Council Offices,
Seaton Delaval,
Northumberland.

SEATON VALLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL:

Councillor W. Forster, J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL:

Councillor J.W. Patterson.

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HEALTH COMMITTEE:

CHAIRMAN: Councillor T.W. Thirlwell

MEMBERS: The whole Council.

OFFICIALS OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

Medical Officer of Health:

William Cunningham, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

Mrs. Evelyn M. Hall, M.B., B.S.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

James R. Wilson, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector:

Ronald Simpson, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Chief Clerk:

Mr. T.J. Elliott.

Council Offices,
Seaton Delaval,
Northumberland.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Seaton Valley Urban District Council:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you the Annual Report of the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the district during the year 1954.

Diphtheria Immunisation:

1903 children up to 4 years of age and 3709 between 5 and 14 years of age had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to the 31st December 1954.

The estimated child population for mid-year 1954 was 1903 up to 4 years of age and 4477 between 5 and 14 years.

Infectious Diseases:

I have to record a decrease in all infectious diseases for the year.

Scarlet Fever:

36 cases were notified during the year as against 91 in 1953.

Diphtheria:

I have to report an absence of Diphtheria in the district for the sixth year in succession.

Measles:

There was a decrease in the number of cases notified. 53 cases were notified as against 248 in 1953.

Whooping Cough:

37 cases were notified during the year as against 51 in 1953.

Births:

The birth rate is slightly higher than in 1953.

Deaths:

The death rate is lower than in 1953.

Milk Supply:

There was an average maintenance of supplies of milk. The keeping qualities showed some improvement.

Details of analyses of samples will be found within the report.

Water Supply:

The supply of water was adequate from both the Tynemouth and Newcastle Areas of supply.

Except in Cramlington Village, the pressure was maintained at a generally satisfactory level. At Cramlington the pressure fell below a satisfactory level for a period during the summer months, particularly on certain days of the week.

I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their sympathetic encouragement during the year and Mr. Wilson, Chief Sanitary Inspector, and all the staff for their constant loyalty and hard work.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient Servant,

W. CUNNINGHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA:

Area (in acres) - 12,459

Population: Registrar-General's Estimate of population mid-year was 26,170 (26,210).

Inhabited Houses: 8,327 approximately at March, 1954.

Rateable Value: £119,357 at 1st April 1955.
(£116,002 at 1st April 1954).

Sum represented by a penny rate - £430 (£420 in 1954).

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Live Births:	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate:	167	176	343
Illegitimate:	8	4	12
	<u>175</u>	<u>180</u>	<u>355</u> (352)

Distribution of births registered in Seaton Valley Urban Area, shown in districts:

District	Legitimate		Illegitimate		Total
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
Cramlington:	31	22	1	-	54
Seaton Delaval:	21	20	1	-	42
Soghill:	8	8	-	-	16
Earsdon:	25	20	-	1	46
	85	70	2	1	158

197 births (90 males and 107 females) were registered in other districts. Of these 8 males and 4 females were illegitimate.

Birth Rate:

The birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population is 13.56 (13.42 in 1953).

Corrected birth rate (comparability factor 1.00) is 13.56.

Still Births:

19 (13 males and 6 females). (4 in 1953).

Rate per 1,000 live and still births - 50.80 (11.23 in 1953).

Deaths:

<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
156	116	272 (281 in 1953).

Death of Infants under 1 year of age:

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate:	10	6	16
Illegitimate:	-	-	-
	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>16</u> (10)

Death of Infants under 4 weeks of age:

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate:	7	6	13
Illegitimate:	-	-	-
	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>13</u> (9)

Distribution of Deaths in Districts:

District	Males	Females	Total
Cramlington:	46	28	74
Seaton Delaval:	50	37	87
Seghill:	7	12	19
Farsdon:	53	39	92
	156	116	272

Death Rate:

The death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population is 10.39 (10.71 in 1953).

Corrected Death Rate:

The corrected death rate (comparability factor 1.05) is 10.90.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:

Puerperal Sepsis	-	0 (0)
Other maternal causes	-	0 (0)

Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age:

All infants per 1,000 live births	-	81.69	(53.97)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	-	84.54	(50.97)
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	0.00	(153.84)
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	-	44	(42)
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	-	0	(0)
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	-	0	(0)
Deaths from Whooping Cough	-	0	(0)

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA:

There were no changes in:

- (a) Laboratory facilities
- (b) Nursing in the Home
- (c) Treatment Centres and Clinics
- (d) Hospitals.

Laboratory Facilities:

The following examinations were made in the Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle upon Tyne.

<u>Examination Requested:</u>	<u>Swabs</u>	<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>
Diphtheria	7	-	7
B. Tuberculosis Sputum	160	19	141
Strept. Haemolyticus	10	-	10
Faeces (for Organisms)	14	-	14
Vaginal Swabs	3	-	3
Urine (Organisms)	3	3	-
	<u>197</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>175</u>

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area:

Water:

Water is purchased in bulk from the Tynemouth Corporation and the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, and is distributed by the Council in the Council's network of mains. There is no service reservoir.

The pressure, except in Cramlington Village, is generally maintained at a satisfactory level, and there was no shortage during the year.

The pressure in the Village of Cramlington has occasionally fallen below a satisfactory level, but this has been due to factors beyond the Council's direct control.

The water is controlled by bacteriological and chemical examination by the two bulk supply authorities. The supply as received and distributed was satisfactory in quality and quantity.

The following table shows the districts served by the two bulk water suppliers and the appropriate numbers of houses and approximate populations served by standpipes and with house services.

Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company.

	<u>EARSDON</u>	<u>SEGHILL</u>
Houses supplied by standpipe	161	117
Population	322	247
Houses with internal services	2451	642
Population	8935	2006

Tynemouth Corporation.

	<u>CRAMLINGTON</u>	<u>SEATON DELAVAL</u>
Houses supplied by standpipe	551	626
Population	1896	1824
Houses with internal services	2060	1739
Population	5911	5030

Drainage and Sewerage:

Sewerage from the whole of the Earsdon, Seaton Delaval, Holywell, Seghill and part of the Cramlington district flows through gravitational sewers and is discharged into the sea. Sewage from the northern part of the district is treated in two disposal works, one at Nelson Village and one at East Hartford. The effluent from the former is not satisfactory, and during the year it was agreed that remedial works were necessary. The matter has been referred to consulting engineers for report.

The sewerage system is constantly under threat of damage as a result of the working of coal.

Rivers and Streams:

Rivers and Streams	) These items are) dealt with in the) Chief Sanitary) Inspector's report.)
Closet Accommodation	
Public Cleansing	
Sanitary Inspection of the District	
Shops and Offices	
Camping Sites	
Swimming Baths and Pools	
Eradication of Bed Bugs	)

Schools:

The sanitary condition and the water supply of all schools in the Area have been satisfactory.

SECTIONS D AND E.

Relating to Housing and inspection and supervision of Food are dealt with in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's report.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever:

36 (91) cases of Scarlet Fever were notified. 30 cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital. 6 cases were isolated at home.

Distribution in the districts was:

Cranlington:	5	(5)	cases
Seaton Delaval:	8	(41)	"
Seghill:	3	(9)	"
Earsdon:	20	(36)	"
	<u>36</u>	<u>(91)</u>	"

Incidence of Scarlet Fever per 1,000 of the population was 0.99 (3.47).

Diphtheria:

The district was free of Diphtheria during the year.

7 throat swabs were submitted to the Laboratory during the year, and all proved negative for Diphtheria.

Pneumonia:

15(4) cases of Pneumonia were notified.

Deaths - 7(7).

Death rate per 1,000 of the population was 0.27 (0.26).

It is evident that some cases of Pneumonia had not been notified.

Erysipelas:

2 cases of Erysipelas were notified during the years.

Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during 1954

Disease	Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Erysipelas	2(5)	-	-
Scarlet Fever	36(91)	30	-
Pneumonia	15(4)	1	7
Dysentery	2(0)	-	-
Whooping Cough	37(51)	-	-
Measles	53(248)	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	2(2)	-	-
Meningitis	4(0)	4	-
Para. Poliomyelitis	3(0)	3	-

Analysis of Total Notified Cases under Age Groups.

Disease	Age un- known	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65 & Over
Measles	-	2	4	9	1	3	32	1	1	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	3	4	7	19	2	1	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	2	3	10	5	6	9	-	-	1	-	-	-
Pneumonia	2	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	3	2	1	3
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis Para.	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningitis	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-

Prevention of Blindness:

No case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was notified during the year.

Tuberculosis:

At the beginning of the year there were 149 (139) cases on the register, 120 Pulmonary, and 29 Non-Pulmonary.

40 new cases, 32 Pulmonary and 8 Non-Pulmonary, were reported during the year.

There were 2 (5) deaths, 2 Pulmonary, - Non-Pulmonary.

184 (149) cases, 147 Pulmonary and 37 Non-Pulmonary were on the register at the end of the year.

3 Pulmonary cases were transferred to another district.

4 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were removed from the register as having recovered.

1 Pulmonary death had not previously been notified as a case.

New Cases and Mortality during 1954

Age Periods	New Cases		Deaths	
	Respiratory	Non- Respiratory	Respiratory	Non- Respiratory
Age Unknown	-	-	-	-
Under 1	-	-	-	-
1-	1	-	-	-
5-	-	2	-	-
15-	6	2	-	-
25-	18	3	-	-
35-	4	-	-	-
45-	2	1	-	-
55-	1	-	2	-
65 & Over	-	-	-	-
	32	8	2	-

Distribution of Deaths in Districts

District	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Cramlington:	1	-	-	-	1
Seaton Delaval:	-	1	-	-	1
Soghill:	-	-	-	-	-
Earsdon:	-	-	-	-	-
	1	1	-	-	2

Death rate from Tuberculosis (all forms) 13.42 (33.55) per 1,000 cases, on the register at the 31st December, 1954.

Death rate per 1,000 population was 0.076 (0.190).

Notification of Tuberculosis:

No action was necessary to enforce notification.

Venereal Diseases:

Propaganda has been conducted on the lines suggested by the Ministry of Health and Central Council for Health Education.

No case had applied to the Department for advice.

National Assistance Act 1948 Sec. 47:

No action under the above was necessary during the year.

Incidence of Infectious Diseases Notified
Years 1945 - 1954.

	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Scarlet Fever	50	45	26	122	66	63	48	71	91	36
Diphtheria	24	28	8	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	4	2	3	2	2	3	-	-	5	2
Pneumonia	5	6	8	8	38	64	10	1	4	15
Whooping Cough	11	12	23	81	162	257	103	34	51	37
Measles	197	138	146	422	162	257	485	250	248	53
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1	-	-	2	-	1	2	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Para Typhoid	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	6	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Dysentery	2	-	1	-	-	3	1	-	-	-
Meningitis & Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	3	2	2	2	-	-	2	-	2
Malaria	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4
Chicken Pox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Polionyelitis Paralytic	-	-	3	-	1	2	-	-	-	3
" Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	2	-	-
	226	236	223	642	273	407	647	370	401	154

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE SEATON VALLEY AREA 1954.

<u>Causes of Death</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
All causes	156	116

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	-	2
2. Other Forms of Tuberculosis	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infections and parasitic diseases	1	-
10. Cancer of stomach	3	3
11. Cancer of lung Bronchus	7	1
12. Cancer of breast	-	3
13. Cancer of uterus	-	1
14. Cancer of all other sites	14	12
15. Leukemia Aleukemia	1	-
16. Diabetes	1	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	25	20
18. Coronary diseases Angina	36	18
19. Hypertension with heart diseases	4	2
20. Other heart disease	34	21
21. Other circulatory disease	-	4
22. Influenza	-	-
23. Pneumonia	5	2
24. Bronchitis	6	3
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	2	2
26. Ulcer of stomach and Duodenum	1	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis, diarrhoea	-	2
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31. Congenital malformation	1	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	10	12
33. Motor vehicle accidents	-	-
34. All other accidents	4	4
35. Suicide	-	-
36. Homicide and other operations of war	-	-
	<u>156</u>	<u>116</u>

URBAN DISTRICT OF SEATCH VALLEY.

Annual Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector
for the Year ending 31st December, 1954.

To the Chairman & Members
of the Council:

Ladies and Gentlemen,

. During 1953 Mr. Colin J. Mullarkey was called up to serve his term of National Service on 16th September, 1953, and Miss M. Armstrong took up her post of Temporary Junior Clerk on 14th September, 1953, so that at the 31st December, 1954, the staff was as follows:-

Medical Officer of Health	William Cunningham, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Chief Sanitary Inspector	James R. Wilson, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Additional Sanitary Inspector	Ronald Simpson, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Chief Clerk	Thomas J. Elliott
Junior Clerk (Temporary)	Marion Armstrong up to Sept. 1954.
do.	Joan Smith Sept. 1954 onwards.

I am indebted to them for their assistance during the year.

HOUSING.

1. The first table shows the number of houses in your district divided up to reveal the position regarding the proportion of Council owned property to privately owned property in your district.

Table 1.

Position as at 31st December	Privately owned Houses		Council owned Houses	Grand Total
	In Clearance Areas.	Not in Clearance Areas		
1954	353	4676	3450	8479
1953	461	4664	3167	8284
1949	662	4647	2649	7958

2. From the table it will be seen that 283 houses were completed by the Council and let for the first time; also it will be noted that the net increase in privately owned houses is 12, 13 new ones being built and 1 condemned and demolished.

3. Of even greater interest from the public health point of view than the large number of Council owned houses becoming available for use is the fact that during 1954 108 condemned houses were emptied and closed for the last time. This is the best result obtained since the War, and figures for the last five years are given below:-

Houses in Clearance Areas or subject to
Demolition Order from which the tenants
have been rehoused and the houses closed
awaiting demolition

In the period

108	1st Jan. 1954 - 31st Dec. 1954
68	" " 1953 - " " 1953
8	" " 1952 - " " 1952
84	" " 1951 - " " 1951
65	" " 1950 - " " 1950

4. These 108 condemned houses which have been emptied during the year were boarded up awaiting demolition. Demolition takes place as a block of property becomes wholly emptied and the largest private owner in your district, the National Coal Board, press on with demolition of the property as soon as practicable.

5. I give in the next table, divided into the House-letting Sub-Committee Areas, the addresses of each of the 108 houses now emptied.

TABLE 2

HOUSES CONDEMNED BUT OCCUPIED ON 1ST JANUARY 1954 WHICH WERE EMPTIED AND BOARDED UP AT 31ST DECEMBER 1954.

GRAMLING TON		EARS DON		SEATON DELAVAL		SEG HILL	
	No. of Houses		No. of Houses		No. of Houses		No. of Houses
Albion Terrace, 11, 47, 49, 59, 65	5	Bertram Place 2	1	Cross Row, N. Hartley 11	1	Blaketown 48, 53, 60, 69	4
Boundary Road 9	1			Pit Cottages 3	1	Blue Row 2, 6, 10	3
Brickyard Cottages 2	1			Wheatridge Row 25, 34, ~~45~~ 55	4 3	Chapel Row 1	1
Charlton's Blds., 4, 9	2					Flat Top Row 8, 9, 13, 14, 16	5
Handyside Place 7	1					Front Street 5, 6, 8	2
Lamb St. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 31, 33, 37, 41, 47, 49, 51, 59, 67, 69, 71, 73, 77	18					High West Farm 2	1
Laurel Place 1, 2	2					New Square 2, 7	2
Office Rd., Hartford 6	1					North Terrace 5, 6, 7, 9	4
Sanderson's Tce. 48	1					Old Fold 5, 3,	2
Shankhouse Tce. 10, 18, 24, 32, 36, 37, 92, 86	8					Old Square 1	1
Terrace Road 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 31, 33, 34, 35, 37, 38, 42, 45, 46	29					Quarry Row 3, 5, 8, 9, 14	5
						Station Terrace 1	1
						Whitehead's Buildings 4	1
						West Farm 3, 4	2
	68 69		1		5 8		33

6. The closure of the 108 houses leaves 353 houses condemned but still occupied at 31st December, 1954, and I give in Table 3 the addresses of each of these remaining houses once again divided up into House-letting Sub-committee areas.

TABLE 3
HOUSES SUBJECT TO CLEARANCE OR DEMOLITION ORDERS BUT STILL OCCUPIED ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1954.

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7. Work is proceeding on a survey of the 4676 privately owned houses to see which need consideration by the Council for inclusion in slum clearance schemes.

8. Table 4 shows the 19 houses which the Council held under requisition on 1st January, 1954, and it will be seen that at the end of the year all of them had been derequisitioned as desired by the Minister of Local Government and Planning.

<u>TABLE 4.</u>				derequisitioned
9	Boundary Road,	Shankhouse,	Cramlington	29/6/54
7	Lamb Street,	East Cramlington		12/10/54
77	do.	do.		29/9/54
	Miller's Stores,	do.		27/4/54
18	Shankhouse Tce.,	Shankhouse,	Cramlington	16/9/54
24	do.	do.	do.	15/9/54
33	do.	do.	do.	16/9/54
36	do.	do.	do.	4/9/54
37	do.	do.	do.	22/9/54
53	Blakotown,	Seghill		4/9/54
6	Blue Row,	do.		18/10/54
2	High West Farm,	do.		23/10/54
7	New Square,	do.		23/11/54
3	Quarry Road,	do.		4/9/54
5	do.	do.		25/10/54
9	do.	do.		23/11/54
1	Station Tce.,	do.		8/9/54
4	West Farm,	do.		23/10/54
4	Whitehead's Buildings,	Seghill		16/11/54

On 31st December, 1954, there were no houses requisitioned in the district.

HOUSING REPAIRS & RENTS ACT, 1954 - SECTION 6.

9. On 1st January 1954, there were 171 clearance area houses occupied under licences granted under Defence (General) Regulations 1939 68AA. These Regulations were repealed by the above Act by which Act all existing licences are kept in force for a period not extending beyond 30th August 1957.

10. 43 licences granted under Defence (General) Regulations 1939 68AA as continued by Section 6(7) Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954 determined during the year leaving 128 licences current at 31st December 1954. The houses so licensed are in bad condition and should be emptied as soon as possible.

11. I give in Table 5 certain information regarding housing which must be included in the Annual Report under the Housing Consolidated Regs. 1925 & 1932

TABLE 5.

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation	84	121	137	120	130	119
Number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	186	140	136	127	101	81
Number of representations made to the local authority with a view to:						
(a) the serving of notices requiring the execution of works	3	40	32	25	33	1
(b) the making of demolition or closing orders	1	None	1	15	None	1
Number of notices served requiring the execution of works	3	40	32	8	33	1
Number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	3	5	22	9	18	5
Number of demolition or closing orders made	1	None	1	8	None	1
Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under sec 11(3) of the Housing Act 1936	None	None	None	7	None	None
Number of houses emptied and gutted pending demolition	15	65	61	27	13	108
Total number of houses inspected under the Public Health and Housing Acts	225	212	265	177	216	193
Total number of inspections made in respect of the above houses	1182	723	1254	574	551	611

DRAINAGE.

12. The following drainage works were superintended during the year:

TABLE 6.

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
No. of feet of old drain removed	85	146	159	26	20	82
" " " " new 4" drain installed	1211	1321	4035	3330	1750	1791
" " " " " 6" " "	120	-	1190	180	64	244
" " defective gullies removed	9	7	20	3	-	13
" " new trapped gullies provided	39	39	167	93	90	92
" " privies removed	2	-	16	175	4	-
" " ashpits removed	2	-	16	175	3	-
" " privies and ashpits repaired	-	18	-	-	-	-
" " new waterclosets provided	25	21	51	201	25	39
" " " sinks provided	5	4	60	27	113	15
" " waste inspection chambers provided	20	23	33	23	22	39
" " baths installed (excl. Council houses)	6	1	6	9	14	18
" " houses at which drains have been tested	27	30	68	80	82	45
" " tests of drains made	59	59	165	90	101	76
" " urinals provided	-	4	2	-	-	2

13. All new drainage works are tested by water test as a routine wherever practicable.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

14. At the time of the writing the pit heaps in the district are under good fire control including especially the very large heap now being erected at "C" Pit, Backworth.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

15. These have been under the control of the Northumberland Rivers Board since 1st October 1950.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

16. 5 houses were disinfected after cases of infectious disease.

20 infected library books were disinfected and returned to owners.

33 visits were paid to cases of infectious disease.

WATER SUPPLY.

17. 7 samples of water supplied to this district were taken during the year, 5 from the Tynemouth supply and 2 from the Newcastle & Gateshead supply.

In all cases the Public Analyst examined them chemically and bacteriologically and found the water to be satisfactory.

MILK.

18. At the 31st December, 1954, the following figures relating to milk obtained:-

TABLE 7.

	1950	At 31st December			
		1951	1952	1953	1954
No. of premises registered as dairies (other than dairy farms)	5	5	5	3	3
No. of persons registered as milk distributors	15	16	21	21	34
No. of licences authorizing the sale of Tuberculin Tested Milk					
Principal	12	12	12	12	10
Supplementary	1	1	1	1	1
No. of licences authorizing the sale of Accredited Milk					
Principal	1	1	1	1	-
Supplementary	-	-	-	-	-
No. of licences authorizing the sale of Pasteurized Milk					
Principal	14	9	14	12	12
Supplementary	2	2	2	2	2
No. of licences authorizing the sale of Sterilized Milk					
Principal	4	8	7	39	36
Supplementary	-	-	-	-	-

12 samples of milk were taken during the year and tested for the presence of b. tuberculosis. 11 were found tuberculosis free. 1 did not conform to the standard of T.T. Milk.

9 samples of pasteurized milk submitted to the phosphatase test proved satisfactory.

17 samples of milk submitted to methylene blue test - 16 proved satisfactory, 1 unsatisfactory.

FOOD INSPECTION.

19. 139 visits were paid to food shops and the undermentioned food condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

Bacon	107 lbs.	Pork Brawn	6 tins
Raisins	30 "	Ox Tongues	16 "
Apricots	11 tins	Ox Tongues	42 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
Cornflour	1 pkt	Grapefruit	1 tin
Sauco	3 bottles	Peas	71 tins
Liver	46 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	Corned Beef	49 "
Sugar	13 "	Corned Beef	29 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
Dates	16 pkts.	Sausage	101 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Bilberries	1 tin	Pork Sausages	1 tin
Oranges	8 tins	Luncheon Meat	19 tins
Custard Powder	1 pkt.	Peaches	5 "
Lobster	4 tins	Pork	18 "
Marmalade	2 jars	Jollied Veal	65 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Salad Cream	2 "	Jellied Veal	16 tins
Raspberries	4 tins	Ham	752 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Cream	3 "	Tomatoes	129 tins
Milk	78 "	Cherries	2 "
Sardines	2 "	Pineapple	17 "
Fruit Salad	6 "	Spaghetti	1 tin
Irish Stew	1 tin	Grapes	17 tins
Prunes	1 "	Stowed Steak	18 "
Cake	1 lb.	Strawberries	15 "
Lentils	6 lbs.	Macaroni	4 lbs.
Beans	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	Chocolate Rolls	4
Beans	51 tins	Soup	2 tins
Minced Chicken	1 jar	Table Jolly	1 pkt.
Hammon	10 lbs.	Onions	1 jar
Crab	5 tins	Minced Beef Loaf	6 tins
Cheese	181 lbs.	Semolina	5 pkts.
Cheese	16 pkts.	Spillers Shapos	1 pkt.
Flour	8 "	Syrup	2 tins
Ryvita	1 pkt.	Paste	10 jars
Brisket Beef	1 tin	Plums	54 tins
Beef	227 lbs.	Pears	41 "
Salmon	10 tins	Beetroot	7 "
Rabbit	1 tin	Greengages	23 "
Frozen Eggs	8	Spam	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Jam	1 jar	Orange Juice	1 bottle

There are approximately 16 Fried Fish Shops in the district but no wet fish shops. There were on the Register at 31st December, 4 bakehouses and these are inspected for cleanliness.

Ice Cream:

There were, on 31st December, 1954, two premises where ice cream is made and sold, and 28 where ice cream was sold. The following samples were taken.

Ministry of Health Provisional Grading					
No. of Samples	Grade	I	II	III	IV
62		58	3	1	-

MEAT INSPECTION.

20. There is no public slaughterhouse in the district. In July 1954 meat supplies were derationed and 5 slaughterhouse licences granted by the Council. 109 visits were made and the undermentioned meat inspected.

TABLE 8.

Month	Animals Examined								Weight of meat Condemned lbs.
	Bullocks	Heifers	Cows	Bulls	Calves	Sheep	Lambs	Pigs	
July	3	40	1	-	-	20	5	11	23
Aug.	7	38	-	-	-	190	-	2	64½
Sept.	8	28	1	-	-	144	-	35	510*
Oct.	19	25	-	-	1	116	-	71	45
Nov.	26	13	-	2	2	92	-	104	16½
Dec.	10	22	3	-	1	68	-	175	28
Total	73	171	5	2	4	630	5	398	687

* This figure includes one cow carcase condemned for generalized tuberculosis.

FACTORIES ACT 1937.

21.	No. on Register	Inspe- ctions	Written Notices
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6, are enforced by the Council:	6	6	-
Factories not included in above where sec 7 is enforced by the Council:	32	31	1
Other premises in which sec 7 is enforced by the Council:	-	-	-
Total:	38	37	1

Defects	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Unsuitable or defective sanitary conveniences	1	1	-
Other offences	-	-	-
Total:	1	1	-

PETROLEUM ACTS AND REGULATIONS.

22. TABLE 9.

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
No. of licences issued to store petroleum spirit	23	25	20	20	20	21
No. of licences issued to store calcium carbide	13	13	12	11	7	6
No. of inspections made of above stores	29	30	24	144	115	53

The high standard was maintained.

MISCELLANEOUS PREMISES.

23. There are 20 schools, 5 cinemas, 24 public houses, 12 working men's clubs and no public baths or camping sites in the Council's district. Visits were paid to the above as occasion demanded for the investigation of complaints of nuisance.

RODENT CONTROL.

24. Sewer treatments, surface survey, free treatment of private dwellings, and rechargeable treatments at commercial premises were carried out during the year in strict accordance with the Ministry of Agriculture's methods.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

25. Your fleet of refuse vehicles is as under:

<u>Vehicle Reg.</u>		<u>Make</u>	<u>First Registered</u>
DNL 835	1	Dennis	27.6.49
DJR 248	2	do.	25.3.50
DNL 834	3	do.	20.6.49
ANL 6	5	do.	19.7.41
DJR 780	7	do.	24.6.50
ETV 128	8	do.	9.3.51

Your cleansing staff comprised:

1 foreman	5 drivers	2 controlled-tipmen
1 mechanic	21 binlifters	1 salvage man.

The number of working days lost during the year was as under.

<u>Month</u>	<u>Working Days</u>	<u>Man/working days</u>	<u>Days lost</u>
January	21	620	52
February	20	682	130
March	23	713	126
April	20	620	40
May	21	651	66
June	21	651	102
July	22	682	118
August	21	651	139
September	22	660	53
October	21	651	53
November	22	612	61
December	21	651	71
	255	7914	1011

Tipping took place at East Cranlington, Seghill and Shiroomor Modern School.

The approximate tonnage of refuse collected is shown below:

<u>Month</u>	<u>Motor Vehicle</u>
January	1589
February	1577
March	1719.1/10
April	1467 $\frac{3}{4}$
May	1472 $\frac{3}{4}$
June	1422
July	1410 $\frac{3}{4}$
August	1345 $\frac{3}{4}$
September	1463 $\frac{3}{4}$
October	1360 $\frac{3}{4}$
November	1521 $\frac{3}{4}$
December	1504.3/20
	17853

STATISTICS.

26. Population: 26,170.

No. of houses with bins	-	8,372
" " " privy boxes	-	86
" " " pail closets	-	138
" " ashpits	-	36

COST OF REFUSE COLLECTION & SALVAGE COLLECTION &
DISPOSAL FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1955.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Collection</u>	<u>Disposal</u>	<u>Totals</u>
1 <u>REVENUE ACCOUNT</u>			
GROSS EXPENDITURE:			
(i) Labour	8,123	1,941	10,064
(ii) Transport	5,029	105	5,134
(iii) Plant, equipment, Land & buildings	738	20	758
(iv) Other items	71	165	236
(v) Total gross expenditure	13,961	2,231	16,192
2 GROSS INCOME	1	1,743	1,744
3 NET COST	13,960	488	14,448
4 Capital expenditure met from revenue (included above)	-	-	-
<u>UNIT COSTS</u>			
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5 Gross cost per ton, labour only	9 1.2	2 2	11 3.2
6 Gross cost per ton, transport only	5 7.6	1.4	5 9
7 Net cost (all expenditure) per ton	15 7.6	6.6	16 2.2
8 Net cost per 1,000 population	533	19	552
9 Net cost per 1,000 premises	1538	54	1592
<u>OPERATIONAL STATISTICS.</u>			
10 Area (statute acres) land and inland water		12,459 acres	
11 Population at 30th June 1954		26,170 persons	
12 Total refuse collected (tons)		17,853 tons	
13 Weight (cwts.) per 1,000 population per day (365 days to year)		37.6 cwts.	
14 Number of premises from which refuse is collected		9,072 premises	
15 Average haul (miles) by collection vehicle to disposal point		2 miles	
16 Kerbside collection, if practised, expressed as estimated percentage of total collection		8%	
17 Total refuse disposed of		17,853 tons	
18 Methods of disposal: Controlled tipping		100%	
19 Salvage and Trade Refuse. Analysis of income and tonnage:			
	Income (included in Item 2)	Tonnage Collected	
Salvage	£		
(a) Kitchen Waste	-	-	
(b) Scrap Metal	47	9	
(c) Waste Paper	1422	200	
(d) Other Salvage	274	17	

Once again my thanks are due to the Chairman of the Council and Health Committee, Mr. W. Forster and Mr. T.W. Thirlwell, to the Medical Officer of Health for his advice and encouragement and to the staff as already mentioned.

Your obedient Servant,

J.R. WILSON,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

